

## Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-10 AID-05 SCCT-01 /082 W

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P R 190517Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8871

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PK, AF

SUBJ: GOP TAKES OVER ADMINISTRATION OF FRONTIER PROVINCE

REF: ISLAMABAD 1446

SUMMARY: GOP ON FEBRUARY 17 PROCLAIMED GOVERNOR'S RULE IN NWFP. THIS DISMISSES COALITION GANDAPUR CABINET AND SUSPENDS ASSEMBLY. GOP PRESS NOTE EXPLAINS ACTION TAKEN BECAUSE OF DETERIORATION LAW AND ORDER, BLAMING AFGHANISTAN FOR INTERFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE GOP ON FEBRUARY 17 DISMISSED THE NWFP PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AND PROCLAIMED GOVERNOR'S RULE FOR 90 DAYS. A GOP PRESS NOTE SAID THAT "THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS CONFIDENT THAT THE MEASURE WOULD STRENGTHEN THE EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY IN THE PROVINCE AND ENSURE ITS FUNCTIONING WITHOUT DIVISION OR DISTRACTION. IT WOULD FACILITATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UTILIZATION OF THE FULL RESOURCES OF THE FEDERATION FOR

REMOVING THE MENACE TO LAW AND ORDER IN THE PROVINCE AND PROTECTING THE LIFE, HONOR AND PROPERTY OF ITS PEOPLE." THE NOTE GOES ON TO BLAME AFGHAN INTERFERENCE (REPORTED BY SEPTTEL) FOR THE DETERIORATION OF LAW AND ORDER.

2. UNDER THE ORDER, THE ASSEMBLY IS SUSPENDED AND THE CABINET OF CHIEF MINISTER GANDAPUR DISMISSED FOR THE DURATION OF GOVERNOR'S RULE, WHICH IS EXTENDABLE BY PARLIAMENT. IN THE INTERIM, THE BUREAUCRACY WILL ADMINISTER THE PROVINCE, REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNOR WHO RULES ON BEHALF OF THE CENTER.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER SPENT THE WEEKEND IN PESHAWAR WHERE HE PRESIDED OVER THE PROVINCIAL CABINET AND SPOKE TO A WIDE VARIETY OF PEOPLE INCLUDING PRO-PPP STUDENT LEADERS. PESHAWAR CONSULATE REPORTS THAT BHUTTO WAS FIRST INCLINED TO REMOVE ONLY A FEW OF THE MORE INEPT MINISTERS FROM THE CABINET BUT ON REFLECTION DECIDED TO SWEEP AWAY THE WHOLE LOT. INITIAL REACTION IN PESHAWAR TO THE ORDER IS SOME RELIEF AND EVEN APPROVAL: RELIEF BASED ON THE HOPE THAT THE LAW AND ORDER SITUATION WILL IMPROVE AND SOME PLEASURE AT THE REMOVAL OF A MINISTRY WHICH IS WIDELY BELIEVED TO BE CORRUPT AND INEFFECTIVE.

4. PESHJPAR CONSULATE REPORTS THAT THERE IS NO NEWS OF CHANGE IN THE BUREAUCRACY. GOVERNOR SAYAD GHAWAS' REPUTATION IS MIXED: SOME SEE HIM AS A PLEASANT BUT WEAK-WILLED GENTLEMAN, OTHERS SEE HIM AS A GOOD ADMINISTRATOR WITH A REPUTATION FOR INTEGRITY. HE FORMERLY WAS THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING THE SEVENTH DIVISION IN PESHAWAR; DIVISION COMMANDER IN LAHORE AND THEN MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR UNDER AYUB; AND FORMER CHIEF OF ARMY INTELLIGENCE. WHILE THERE ARE MIXED OPINIONS ON HIS MENTAL SHARPNESS, HIS PHYSICAL HEALTH APPEARS TO BE GOOD. PROVINCIAL POLICE CHIEF MIAN BASHIR AHMED HAS COME UNDER GREAT CRITICISM BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF POLICE PROTECTION TO SHERPAO. POLITICAL DECISIONS WILL PROBABLY REST WITH THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF, THOUGH THREE LOCAL POLITICIANS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED ADVISORS TO THE GOVERNOR.  
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5. CONSULATE PESHAWAR IS PREPARING A REPORT WHICH WILL BE SENT TO ADDRESSEES, ALONG WITH EMBASSY COMMENT, IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ISLAMA01473  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOP TAKES OVER ADMINISTRATION OF FRONTIER PROVINCE  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, PK, AF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006